

CONFIDENTIAL

GENERAL

1. Western Union request for military aid--The Department of State has transmitted to US Ambassador Douglas in London the terms of the request by the Western Union powers for US military aid and the US reply. The Western Union requests US material and financial assistance in a common defense program based on the principles of self-help, reciprocal aid, and common action in defense in accordance with the Atlantic Pact. In reply, the US has informed the Western Union that the President is prepared to recommend to Congress that the US provide military aid under the principles of the Atlantic Pact, with the understanding that the allocations of material and financial assistance shall be agreed upon between the Western Union powers and the US. The Department has also informed Douglas that discussions are now being held with Danish, Norwegian, and Italian representatives concerning the requests of those countries for US aid and the terms of the US reply.

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